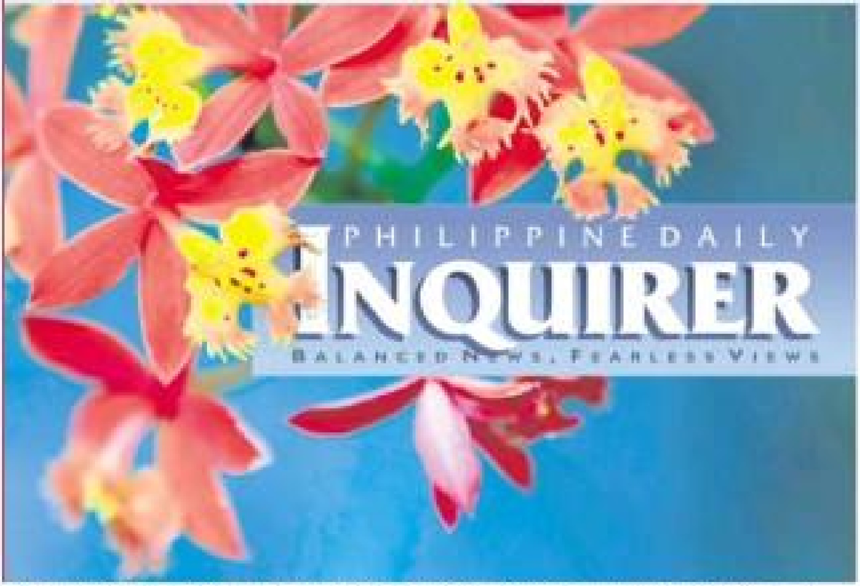
Thursday, November 20, 2008 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 346 P10 website: www.inquirer.net

BUSINESS / B1
BSP keeps peso from hitting 50 to 1$

WORLD / A23
Obama nominates first black US attorney general



PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

NATURE'S BEST The recently opened 76-hectare Kan-irag Nature Park in Apala Heights, Cebu City, is a habitat of indigenous trees and exotic flora and fauna.



Foes not about to say amen to Dureza prayer to extend GMA rule

By Christine O. Avendaño and Christian V. Esguerra

THE OPPOSITION IS NEVER SAYING amen to what Press Secretary Jesus Dureza believes as a humorous but harmless prayer wishing for an extended rule of President Macapagal-Arroyo during Tuesday's Cabinet meeting.

"I think this is a trial balloon as the

FOES NOT ABOUT/A18

GMA allies go for the kill

Number of solons going to Peru now down to 8 from 40

By Christian V. Esguerra and Michael Lim Ubac

MOST OF THE 40 MEMBERS OF THE House of Representatives who wanted to join President Macapagal-Arroyo on her trip to Peru have changed their mind upon the request of Speaker Prospero Nograles.

Ms Arroyo leaves Manila today to join leaders of the 21 Asia-Pacific economies in the 16th Apec summit this weekend.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita

NUMBER/A11

House committee quickly junks 3 more impeach raps

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE YESTERDAY cleared the way for formal deliberations on the fourth impeachment case against President Macapagal-Arroyo in three years after quickly dismissing a motion for intervention and two other complaints.

Voting 39-4, the committee threw out after lengthy and heated debates a move by a group of bloggers headed by columnist Manuel Quezon III to strengthen the main complaint filed by businessman Jose "Joey" de Venecia III.

The bloggers wanted to include as a ground for impeachment the memorandum of agreement (MOA) on ancestral domain with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, which the Supreme Court declared as unconstitutional last month.

Also spiked were cases lodged separately by private lawyers Guillermo Sotto and Oliver Lozano after De Venecia had filed his complaint.

The House is required by the Constitution to consider only one impeachment complaint against the President in one year. In the past three years, there has been an annual race to be first to file a case against Ms Arroyo whose allies have managed to kill three previous attempts to oust her.

Rep. Matias Defensor, committee chair, shrugged off suggestions he was working on a deadline to wrap up the impeachment hearing within the next two weeks even though his panel had been dispensing its business with uncommon haste.

GMA ALLIES/A6



"MANO PO," THE REALITY SHOW Sen. Jamby Madrigal, part of the core group of senators who ousted Manny Villar as Senate president and installed Juan Ponce Enrile, pays her respect to the man the traditional way.

Erap threatens to run for President if . . .

By Fe Zamora and TJ Burgonio

JOSEPH ESTRADA MAY NOT HAVE A hand in the ouster of Senate President Manny Villar, a presidential candidate in 2010, but the deposed Chief Executive is not coy about his plan to make his own bid for the presidency if the opposition remains divided.

"As I have said, I will run if the opposition cannot find a common candidate. That would be my last option," Estrada said in a telephone interview yesterday.

ERAP THREATENS/A6

'Erap had nothing to do with it'

By Christine O. Avendaño

SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN PONCE Enrile yesterday said that his ascent to the top position in the Senate was not brought about by outside forces like Malacañang or former President Joseph Estrada.

"This is purely an internal act of members of the chamber," Enrile said of the decision of 12 senators to sign a resolution that catapulted him to the Senate presidency on Monday.

Enrile made the statement on the floor, shortly after Estrada's son, Senate President Pro Tempore Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada, delivered a privilege speech denying an Inquirer story that his father had a hand in ousting former

ERAP HAD/A11

Online business makes him a millionaire at 28

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

HE COULD HAVE SET UP THE USUAL shop, sold stuff to people in the neighborhood, and still made a living.

But 30-year-old businessman Jan del Carmen decided to stay home and work in front of his computer. Today, he earns P500,000 every month.

The world is his market.

Del Carmen is the founder and CEO of Fireball Planet, a corporation based in Makati City which sells e-books, software, and music and instructional videos to the world via the Internet.

Everything for sale on his website is downloadable as PDF files, program files, MP3, MP4, etc. He doesn't need a warehouse for his products nor the services of a mailman or UPS to deliver the products.

"I do not have a big office, but I have a huge empire in the virtual world," he says.

ONLINE/A10



STAR-STUDDED EXIT Maj. Gen. Leopoldo Maligalig retired last Saturday as PMA superintendent without a successor and the honorary promotion to the next rank. The two-star general who shared the stage with his grandson Enzo Maligalig, 7, would have been the first in his PMA "Maglaban" Class of 1976 to get a third star. His classmate, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Alexander Yano, told him, "You have more than three stars."

De la Paz says he'll reimburse 105,000 euros seized in Moscow

By Leila B. Salaverria

IF AND WHEN, THE MOSCOW CAPER will literally cost retired Philippine National Police comptroller Eliseo de la Paz.

Testifying yesterday at the House of Representatives, De la Paz expressed willingness to reimburse from his own pocket the cash confiscated from him by Russian authorities in Moscow early in October.

He told members of the House committee on public order and safety, which is looking into the fund scandal, that the 105,000 euros (P6.9 million) confiscated from him had yet to be returned.

The committee chaired by Nueva Ecija Rep. Rodolfo Antonino is planning an executive session today to allow De la Paz to elaborate on the intelligence equipment that he and his colleagues were purportedly planning to purchase overseas.

De la Paz stuck to his story on why he was carrying the huge amount of cash as disbursing officer of a PNP delegation to the 77th Interpol General Assembly in St. Petersburg—that it would be used as a contingency fund and to buy intelligence equipment.

DE LA PAZ/A8

House summons fertilizer scam runner

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Anselmo Roque

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON agriculture has issued a subpoena for the alleged runner in the P728-million fertilizer fund scam to force her to appear in a face-off with former Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-joc" Bolante and her purported congressmen-clients.

Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra, the committee chair, yesterday said the subpoena was sent to the residence of Marilou Aytona at SSS Village, Marikina City after she failed to show up at the two hearings held by his committee on the fund scam.

The next hearing is scheduled on Dec. 3, with Bolante and his former boss, Luis "Cito" Lorenzo, invited to attend.

Mitra said Aytona should face Bolante, who had denied knowing her and Capiz Rep. Antonio del

HOUSE/A10

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

E-mail: pl_news@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net

EZ2

SUERTRES

3 27 30 15

6 7 8

FOUR DIGIT

4 1 1 7

MEGALOTTO 6/45

4 27 38 43 44 45

P43,824,990.60

SC stops Bataan gov's suspension

THE SUPREME COURT YESterday stayed the preventive suspension of Bataan Gov. Enrique Garcia Jr.

The high court issued an indefinite temporary restraining order (TRO) against an Oct. 28 order by the Ombudsman suspending the governor and three other key provincial officials for six months. The officials are facing complaints in connection with the provincial government's takeover of a tax delinquent paper plant some time ago.

Supreme Court Associate Justice Consuelo Ynares-Santiago, chair of the high court's Third Division, told the Ombudsman to hold the suspension "until further orders from this Court."

She also ordered the Ombudsman and interior secretary Ronaldo Puno to comment within 10 days on Garcia's petition for certiorari and prohibition.

Garcia went to the Supreme Court on Nov. 18 after the Court of Appeals denied his petition for a TRO.

Garcia said his case had "extreme urgency due to the great risk of public unrest and violence that may erupt at any time."

Garcia's preventive suspension stemmed from the provincial government's takeover of a tax delinquent paper plant.

The takeover has since been amicably settled but three workers had filed criminal and administrative charges against Garcia and other officials.

Included in the suit were provincial legal officer Aurelio Angeles Jr., provincial treasurer Emerlinda Talento and provincial administrator Rodolfo de Mesa. They were also ordered suspended by the Ombudsman.

In his petition, Garcia named as respondents Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez, Deputy Ombudsman Orlando Casimiro, Interior secretary Rolando Puno and the private complainants Jeanchito Gonzaga, Noel Manito and Alfredo Santos. *Norman Bordadora*

Interviews of SC aspirants start

THREE OF 14 ASPIRANTS TO THE FIRST of seven upcoming vacancies in the Supreme Court faced the Judicial and Bar Council yesterday in interviews that were opened to the public.

Bureau of Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Buñag, Court of Appeals Associate Justice Mariano del Castillo and Solicitor General Agnes Devanadera fielded questions about their judicial experience and philosophy.

The eight-man JBC will submit by the first week of December a short list of three nominees from which President Macapagal-Arroyo will choose the replacement for Associate Justice Ruben Reyes who retires on Dec. 16. Six more Supreme Court justices are due to retire next year.

Del Castillo, who said his field was legal ethics, said he would help put up an electronic system to track down the thousands of cases filed in the high court which he said needed to unload numerous cases.

"The Supreme Court should focus on being more of a constitutional court," said Del Castillo, who said he would focus on the small ones.

Chief Justice Reynato Puno, the JBC chair, questioned Buñag's focus on corporate law.

"What induced to take up corporate practice, what's the lead attraction? Was it the ringing of the cash register?" he asked.

Buñag noted that there were Supreme Court justices who like him focused in corporate litigation but did well in the high court.

Devanadera, a former town mayor, executive director of the ruling Lakas coalition and private law practitioner for 11 years, said her contribution would be "putting people first" and instituting efficiency in administrative systems.

The JBC will continue interviewing Devanadera today.

Devanadera was stumped when asked whom she admires most in the judicial profession, then replied it was Puno.

"I'm particularly impressed with the wealth of outputs, bahoss data, something I was not really expecting these days," she said. *Dona Pazzibugan*



GMA orders bounties on kidnappers in South

By TJ Burgonio

League of cities welcome demotion of 16 towns

Court finds SMC guilty of unfair trade

Solon suggests sex education for bishops





THE DAILY GOSPEL



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E-mail: secretariat@pism.org Website: www.pism.org

PISM: 40 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO SUPPLY MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE

From its humble beginnings as a non-stock, non-profit organization for purchasing professionals, originally called the Purchasing Association of the Philippines (PAP) in 1968, following the evolution of the function from purchasing to supply management, today, after 40 years of existence, the organization has grown into what is now known as the Philippine Institute for Supply Management (PISM). PISM has evolved to become the country's premier professional association of supply management practitioners.

Over the past four decades, PISM has instituted new programs to develop the professional competency of the Philippine supply managers, and proudly contributes to the profession itself by moving towards being a world class prime mover and resource center of supply management and leadership excellence in Asia.

True to this vision, PISM is continuously strengthening its alliances to international organizations. It is an allied member of the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) based in Tempe, Arizona, U.S.A., an affiliate of the International Federation of Purchasing and Supply Management (IFPSM) based in Switzerland, and the International Trade Center UNCTAD/WTO.

PISM, currently, has 380 member companies belonging to Top 500 corporations and SME's from various industries in Metro Manila and three provincial chapters, namely: Cebu, Davao and Negros Occidental.

Recent years have seen tremendous growth in member participation in PISM's professional seminars, industry group forum, general membership meetings and other activities, as the subjects in these events are continually updated for a more appropriate and relevant information in the purchasing and supply management context.

Indeed, PISM will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with pride and achievements.

MESSAGES



[illegible]

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



[illegible]

PAUL A. RAMOS, C.P.M., DBM
PISM President



[illegible]

PAUL NOVAK, C.P.M., A.P.P.
Chief Executive Officer
Institute for Supply Management



[illegible]



[illegible]

CHARLES HOLDEN



[illegible]

PAUL LIM
Founder/President, Supply Chain Asia

FY 2008 – 2009 Board of Directors

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PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ON SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
  Ateneo Graduate School of Business – Center for Continuing Education
- DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT (DPSCM)
  De La Salle -College of St. Benilde
  School of Professional and Continuing Education
- DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT (DPSCM)
  Technological Institute of the Philippines (TIP)
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  University of Makati
- BACHELOR OF COMMERCIAL SCIENCE MAJOR IN SUPPLY MANAGEMENT
  Jose Rizal University

SUPPLYLINKS ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE EXHIBIT



[illegible]

PISM REPORT ON BUSINESS: PURCHASING MANAGERS' INDEX (PMI) PHILIPPINES

REPORT ON BUSINESS

[illegible]

The Philippines is the 27th country.

FOUNDATION OF THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

[illegible]

RP innovation wins Rolex for clean trikes

Direct injection kit

Troubleshooting

UN cites RP peacekeepers in Liberia

Ever smiling

Rules on investors visas in the works

GMA allies go for the kill; House junks more impeach raps

Recital of facts

1-year bar rule

Charter change

Quantum of solace: GMA basks in the support of municipal mayors

Erap threatens to run again for President if opposition stays divided

History of coups

GMA endorsement unclear

De la Paz says he'll reimburse 105,000 euros seized in Moscow

All smiles

Retirement benefits on hold

Easier time

Spouses

Wristwatches

Ombudsman

Pinoy doc cleared in US health fraud

[illegible]

No extradition

[illegible]

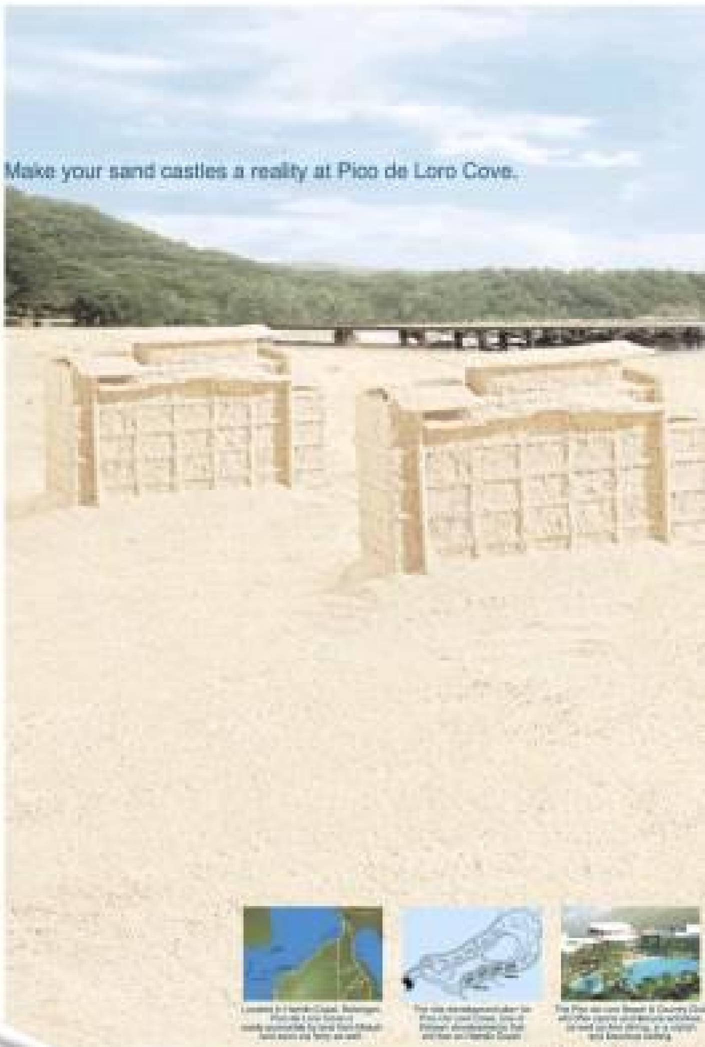
Appeal eyed

[illegible]

Loren says she leads in Pulse Asia's shorter list

Online business makes him a millionaire at 28







Number of solons down to 8

From page A1

yesterday said the number was now down to eight or 10 lawmakers at most—a day before Ms Arroyo leaves for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) summit in Lima, the Peruvian capital.

"From the initial roster of about 40 [congressmen], I found there were only eight," he said. "They were talked to by the Speaker. They volunteered not to go anymore."

Ermita did not identify the eight House members who still decided to fly with Ms Arroyo despite criticism that the Lima trip would only be a junket for them.

He said there were only five members of the official delegation—Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo, Trade Secretary Peter Favila, Press Secretary Jesus Dureza, Foreign Undersecretary Rafael Seguis and former Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo.

Including administrative staff members and Presidential Security Group officers, the delegation would easily balloon to at least 40 people.

She will share the global stage with outgoing US President George W. Bush, newly elected Russian leader President Dmitry Medvedev, among other leaders, in the summit to be held against a backdrop of global recession.

Crisis fund

In Lima, Ermita said Ms Arroyo would join other world leaders in drafting fresh strategies on issues such as the global financial turmoil, human security, food and energy security, climate change, and corporate social responsibility.



Ms Arroyo was also expected to make another pitch for the proposed 100-billion crisis fund for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), the initial details of which were discussed during a technical working group meeting in Manila last week.

The crisis fund was proposed at the 7th Asia-Europe Meeting in Beijing last month, primarily as an expanded version of the Chiang Mai Initiative, which was mainly focused on bilateral swap agreements.

According to suggestions made by China, Japan and South Korea—the so-called "Plus 3" members of Asean—to shoulder 80 percent of the proposed regional facility, with the remainder taken care of by the rest of the region.

Stopover

Ms Arroyo will have a brief stopover in Los Angeles tomorrow to meet with the Filipino community before proceeding to South America. The President will meet with Filipinos based in Los Angeles at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel at around 6 p.m., and is scheduled to leave at 9:30 p.m. on the same day for the eight-and-a-half-hour flight to Lima.

Philippine time is ahead of Los Angeles by 16 hours and Lima by 13 hours.

The Apec leaders' Summit will run from Nov. 22 to 23.

But two other global events have been scheduled before the summit—the 20th Apec Ministerial Meeting on Nov. 19-20 followed by the Apec Chief Operating Officers' summit on Nov. 20-22.

A briefer issued to Pres by Malacañang said that President Arroyo's attendance at the Apec 2008 was timely in view of the global financial crisis triggered by the US mortgage crisis, which has now spread to advanced economies of Japan, the 15-nation euro zone, France, United Kingdom and even Asian powerhouse China.

Coordinated approach

The gathering of world leaders will give nations rich and poor a chance at crafting a coordinated approach to address major issues that affect the region and the world, according to the briefer.

The summit is especially significant because Apec constitutes an economic power bloc in the most dynamic region, representing 49 percent of the world's trade.

"These global meetings are opportunities for the exchange of experiences in matters of international trade, diplomatic relations, business and investment possibilities both in the bilateral and multilateral levels to spur economic development and attract more investments to the country," the briefer said.

Welcome ceremony

Ms Arroyo and her official delegation are expected to arrive early morning on Nov. 22 where a Peruvian welcome ceremony awaits the Philippine President and the 19 other Apec leaders on their different flights at the wing Terminal 2 of Peru's Jorge Chavez International Airport.

By noontime, Ms Arroyo and the other Apec leaders will be accorded the official welcome and greetings and the Apec traditional handshakes with this year's host, Peruvian President Alan García Pérez, at the entrance lobby of the Ministry of Defense (MOD) Convention Center at Pentagonito in San Borja district in Lima.

New commitment

Then, Ms Arroyo will join other leaders in roundtable discussions and meetings which will focus on the "Apec Peru 2008" theme of "A New Commitment to the Asia-Pacific Development."

The Apec leaders will meet over lunch and resume their consultation in the afternoon session.

After the first retreat of the Apec leaders, Ms Arroyo and the other Apec leaders are set to meet with the Apec Business Advisory Council (Abac) members for dialogue and interaction.

Abac is the principal economic and business advisory group composed of think tanks, business and financial experts, investment leaders and CEOs from the Asia Pacific community.

After the Apec Leaders' Retreat 1 and dialogue sessions with Abac, they will be feted with a gala dinner and cultural performance by the Peruvian government at the Caravan Esplanade in the same MOD complex.

On the second day, Nov. 23, Ms Arroyo and the Apec leaders will hold their second retreat at the MOD Convention Center.

At the close of the second retreat at noontime, the Apec leaders will have their official group photo clad in the Apec host country's special Peruvian ensemble. They will then issue a "Final Declaration."

The Apec forum aims to promote sustainable economic growth and development, develop and strengthen the multilateral trade system and increase the interdependence and prosperity of the member economies.



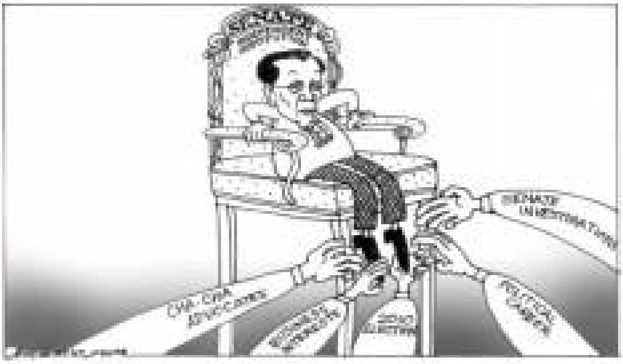
INQUIRER

Opinion

Their crime

Editorial

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Prayer without heart

Viewpoint

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

One Ponce Enrile

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

In the apostle's footsteps in Rome



POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

KFR in Zambasulta



HUMAN FACE

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

Congressional feeding frenzy



THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

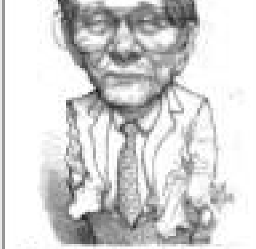
Rediscovery

YOUNG BLOOD

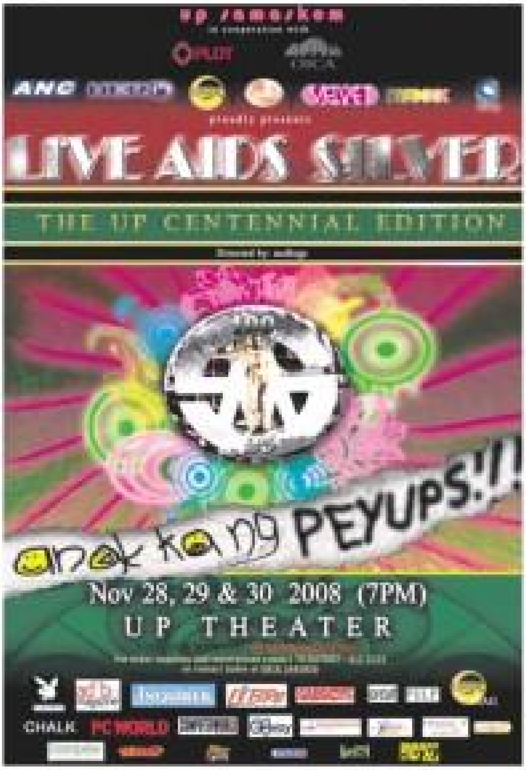
Sheryl dela Rama-Baltazar

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

IN THE NEWS



Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile



So agricultural, so hungry

LETTERS

Imagine, if it had been Roco who called Obama



INQUIRER Southern Luzon

Villages take forefront in waste segregation

By Mary Ann Ayos
General Trias, Cavite

ONE SMALL STEP FOR WASTE SEGREGATION, one big leap for the environment—and a meaningful way of life for more residents of General Trias town in Cavite.

[illegible]



A TRASH repository in Barangay Bagumbayan in General Trias, Cavite.

ON WORSENING CORRUPTION: A CALL FOR CHANGE

20 November 2008

We support the call of the five senior bishops led by Jaro Archbishop ANGEL LAGDAMEO that the time for radical reforms to rebuild our country economically, socially and politically; and to conquer complacency, cynicism and apathy, is NOW. We should NOW prepare for a **NEW KIND OF GOVERNANCE.**

We are justifiably alarmed that the span and depth of corruption has become so extensive that the people's and the world's trust and confidence in the country and government have been irreparably shattered. Corruption is bad for business growth, employment and long-term survival. It worsens poverty; steals from the poor; compromises public order and safety; mocks the rule of law; encourages bureaucratic inefficiency; and destroys society's moral fabric.

The world has not been oblivious to the culture of corruption in our government that is thriving with near-total impunity as surveys by reputable international agencies have shown. The dishonor of being the most corrupt in Asia and one of the worst in the world compels us to join the call for redemption.

Corruption has become a moral and social cancer. Despite the many celebrated cases of corruption in high places, who in this government has been held accountable? Who has been prosecuted? Who has undergone trial? Who has been jailed? Suspects are, in fact, perceived as being protected and even rewarded. We cannot understand government's inability or refusal to wield its vast powers to prosecute the accused.

The time for national transformation is NOW where all of us must do right as citizens - be it as parents, students, employers, employees, seniors, professionals or public servants. Doing right by our conscience, the law, the people and country is a sacred duty whatever our station in life may be.

A commitment to reform requires COURAGE to not only speak out against wrongdoing but also do something about it. It is the virtue that makes all other virtues possible. It starts with self. And it is only by our COURAGE that we will free ourselves from the shackles of corruption and redeem our honor and dignity.

We call on President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, the Congress and all our political leaders to demonstrate their patriotism and have the COURAGE to use the remaining 18 months of their term to do what is right for our country and our people, to put country above self.

We call on all other religious leaders, business groups and civil society to close ranks with Archbishop Lagdameo and the good bishops and be part of this movement for change, one that aspires for and results in good government and a just society.

We can no longer afford to do nothing. In calling for a corruption-free government, change, real change, must come to the Philippines NOW!

Our people, in desperation, can no longer wait.

MAKATI BUSINESS CLUB

Management Association of the Philippines

COALITION FOR NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

PAID ADVT.

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Diarrhea kills 2, downs 1,000 in Misamis



HUNDREDS of patients lie on makeshift beds under a pitched tent outside the municipal hospital of Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental.

TAGOLOAN, MISAMIS Oriental—At least two persons have died and almost 1,000 others have been hospitalized here since Saturday in what health officials described as the worst diarrhea outbreak so far to hit the province.

Worst in province

Suspected typhoid cases in Quezon town reach 109; blood test results awaited

'Most of the patients had been found positive in typhidot test, a rapid laboratory examination for typhoid fever.'

Not conclusive

Help

Hepatitis

Daughter innocent of what happened to broadcaster dad

2 suspected NPA rebels killed in clash, says Army

Air strikes kill 1, hurt 4 in Maguindanao, says MILF

COTABATO CITY—MILITARY [illegible]

Deliberate!

[illegible]

'Observed mission'

[illegible]

More evacuees

[illegible]

Bishops-ulama meet

[illegible]

Camarines farmers march to Malacañang

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

[illegible]

Motion

[illegible]



MT. APO YIELD

[illegible]

Compostela Valley executives seek help for 400 families displaced by landslides

[illegible]

Quezon split authors hit move to stop plebiscite

[illegible]

NEWSBRIEFS

DAVAO CITY

Lack of convention facilities hounds city

[illegible]

ROXAS CITY

Girl strangled; mom wounded

[illegible]

DIGOS CITY

Woman, niece stabbed dead

[illegible]

LIPA CITY

Korean with gun held

[illegible]

Fertilizer firm may have been 'used'

House summons fertilizer scam runner



BOLANTE

Binay warns: Cha-cha express all set

Foes not about to say amen to Dureza prayer

Cayetano turns down offer to continue to head blue ribbon

'Erap had nothing to do with it'

Rain or Shine beats Alaska, finally



ROB WAINWRIGHT of Rain or Shine slaps the loose ball out of the hands of Alaska's Sonny Thoss (front) in a rebound battle during their game last night. The Elasto Painters held on defensively in the stretch to score their first franchise victory against Alaska.

By Musong R. Castillo

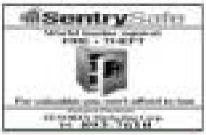
RAIN OR SHINE PLAYED DEFENSE LIKE IT was the best at that department in the league and the Elasto Painters defeated Alaska for the first time in franchise history, 93-86, to stay in the upper half of the KFC-PBA Philippine Cup standings last night.

[illegible]

More Sports stories on A25 to A28


She changed the way people saw blindness.
She has vision.
Roselle Ambubuyog.
Summa Cum Laude Graduate.
Product Manager for an accessibility solutions company.
Inspirational speaker for students and professionals.
Blind since she was six years old.
When you go to great lengths to communicate,
you don't just make a connection.
You make a difference.
PLDT. 80 Years of Changing Lives.
PLDT

A plus METRO
Editor: Ruben D. Dipasupil





Let cops patrol campus, UP urged

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE CHIEF OF THE QUEZON CITY POLICE DIStrict yesterday said that policemen should be allowed to patrol the grounds of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City, to stop the increasing number of crimes on campus.

QCPD chief Senior Supt. Magtanggol Gatdula issued the statement after residents in the area found the body of a still unidentified man at the UP forestry.

The victim, believed to be between 18 and 25 years old, had been shot repeatedly in the head.

Investigator SPO3 Leonardo Perez said the victim could be a member of a gang which lives on campus.

Written message

He based this on a piece of plywood which was found near the victim's body. Written on it was the message, "TBS-Journey mirror (do not follow his example)."

Perez said TBS could stand for True Brown Style, the name of a gang which was at odds with another group called [illegible].

Yesterday's discovery came more than a week after a group of robbers shot dead a book seller and his two security escorts inside the university.

The incident occurred while the three victims were alighting from an armored van at the back of the Bahay ng Alumni where a branch of the Philippine Veterans Bank is located.

"We could do the job better if we are together in preventing crime," Gatdula said.

Under a memorandum of agreement between the UP administration and then Interior Secretary Rafael Alunan, policemen and armed units are not allowed on campus without the permission of university officials.

Only members of the UP police are allowed within university grounds.

"We cannot enter the school grounds without first asking for clearance from the security people or if we are asked to investigate a crime," Gatdula said.

He also expressed his concern over the capability and logistics of the UP police.

"They have very limited equipment and their personnel do not have the training compared to our regular policemen," he said.

Gatdula pointed out that the MOA has indirectly hampered their investigation of crimes that took place inside the university.

He expressed hope that an ongoing dialogue between the National Police Commission and UP officials would result in an agreement that would allow the QCPD to enter the UP campus at any time.

Campus patrol

"If we cannot put up our own police post [in UP], we should at least be allowed to patrol the campus at any given time," Gatdula said.

One of the more sensational crimes which occurred on the UP campus was the death of Filemon "Ka Popoy" Lagman, a former communist leader who formed the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino and Sanlakas. He was shot dead in front of the Bahay ng Alumni on Feb. 6, 2001.

In February 1999, journalism student [illegible] was shot dead on the campus.

Manila cops warned vs 'telebabad'

By Tina G. Santos

MANILA POLICE DISTRICT chief Roberto Rosales yesterday warned his men against hogging the office phone lines while they are on duty or face sanctions.

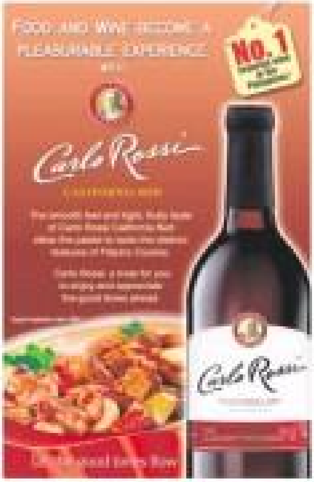
"I issued the directive so our policemen can entertain all calls, especially those coming from people who need our help," Rosales told the Inquirer.

The MPD chief said he has received information that many of his men spend much of their time in the office talking on the police hotline, making it difficult for people calling for help to get through.

Rosales cited the recent robbery at St. Scholastica's College where security officers were unable to call up the nearest police station but the line was busy.

"To avoid such incidents or from receiving such complaints, I reminded our policemen to keep phone lines open and refrain from using them for personal calls.

"We are also holding all station commanders responsible," he added.



13 more bus stops on Edsa

By Allison W. Lopez

AN ADDITIONAL 13 bus stops for the exclusive use of provincial buses are being set up by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) on Edsa to ease traffic on the 24-km highway.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando yesterday said the move was prompted by their finding that the sharing of bus stops between city and provincial buses was causing traffic on Edsa which is used daily by 2.34 million public and private vehicles.

MMDA said 3,300 city buses, including those without franchises, pass through Edsa every day.

The bus stops will be put up on Taft Avenue, Magallanes, Ayala Avenue, Ortigas Avenue, [illegible] Avenue, Timog and East Avenues, Quezon Avenue, North Avenue and Trinoma Mall, [illegible] Bldg. [illegible], West Avenue and Balintawak.

Seven stops will be installed on Edsa's northbound lane while the rest will be on the southbound lane.



NCRPO chief seeks community's help in war vs organized crime

By Marlon Ramos

Reward for crime tip up

By Nancy Carvajal

2 Parañaque cops slightly injured after speeding truck hits their car

By Marlon Ramos

Did you know

Jess Dureza's humorous prayer

On Target
Ramon Tulfo



Fire trucks for Mandaluyong

By DJ Yap

MetroBriefs

Accidental shooting

'Gapos Gang' strikes

Couple charged for drugs

Caught with fake dollars

Obama nominates first black attorney general


HOLDEN


CLINTON

US missile strike kills 6 in Pakistan

3D poised to take over movies

WORLDBRIEFS

Bonfire blamed for wildfire

Obama girls tour White House

Tool bag lost in spacewalk

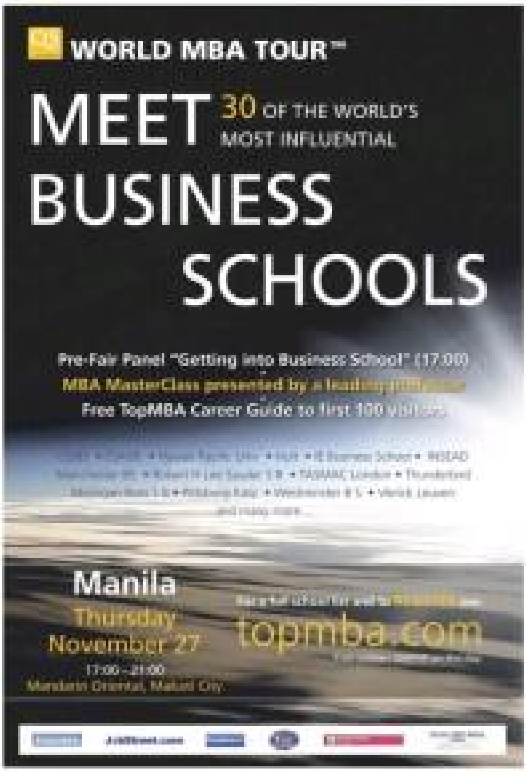
FDA opens new China office

Serbia to sue Croatia

Long-lost primate rediscovered

Hearing, vision restored

Fake tiger photo trial



The WORLD

Pirates hijack Thai fishing boat

NEW DELHI—SEPARATE BANDS OF PIRATES HIJACKED TWO ships and captured their crews, while yet another opened fire on an Indian Navy ship before being driven off—clear signs that the brigands roaming the Gulf of Aden are becoming bolder and more violent, officials said on Wednesday.

A Thai ship with 16 crew members and an Iranian cargo vessel with a crew of 25 were hijacked on Tuesday in the Gulf of Aden, where Somalia-based pirates appear to be attacking ships at will, said Noel Choong of the International Maritime Bureau's piracy reporting center in Malaysia.

"It's getting out of control," Choong said.

The incidents raised to eight the number of ships hijacked this week alone, he said. Since the beginning of the year 39 ships have been hijacked in the Gulf of Aden, out of 95 vessels attacked.

"There is no firm deterrent, that's why the pirate attacks are continuing," Choong said. "The criminal activities are flourishing because the risks are low and the rewards are tremendously high."

The pirates used to mainly roam the waters off the Somali coast, but now they have spread in every direction and are targeting ships further at sea, according to Choong.

He said 17 vessels remained in the hands of pirates along with more than 300 crew members, including a Ukrainian ship loaded with weapons and a Saudi Arabian supertanker carrying $100 million in crude.

A multicoalition naval force, which has increased patrols in the region, scored a success on Tuesday when an Indian warship destroyed a suspected pirate ship that had opened fire off the coast of Oman.

The Indian Navy said the pirates fired on the INS Tabar after the officers asked it to stop to be searched. Indian forces fired back, destroying the ship, and then chased one of the speed boats, which was later found abandoned. The other escaped, according to a Navy statement.

Despite the stepped-up patrols, the attacks have continued unabated off Somalia, which is caught up in an Islamic insurgency and has had no functioning government since 1991. Pirates have generally released ships they have seized after ransoms are paid.

Nato has three warships in the Gulf of Aden and the US Navy's Bahrain-based 5th Fleet also has ships in the region.

But US Navy Cmdr. Jane Campbell of the 5th Fleet said naval patrols simply couldn't prevent attacks given the vastness of the sea and the 21,000 vessels passing through the Gulf of Aden every year.

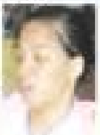
"Given the size of the area and given the fact that we do not have small assets—either ships or airplanes—to be everywhere with every single ship" it would be virtually impossible to prevent every attack, she said.

The Gulf of Aden connects to the Red Sea, which in turn is linked to the Mediterranean by the Suez Canal. The route is thousands of kilometers and many days shorter than going around the Cape of Good Hope off the southern tip of Africa.

The Thai boat, which was flying a flag from the tiny Pacific nation of Kiribati but operated out of Thailand, made a distress call as it was being chased by pirates in two speedboats but the phone connection was cut off midway. *AP*

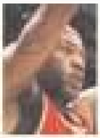


WHAT'S INSIDE
■ Harbour Centre tests Magnolia Pure Water /A26



SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic E. Melendres • Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa
E-Mail: pi_sports@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/sports



■ Cavs, Celtics clip foes /A27

CHESS OLYMPIAD

So eyes top GM in RP-Spain tiff

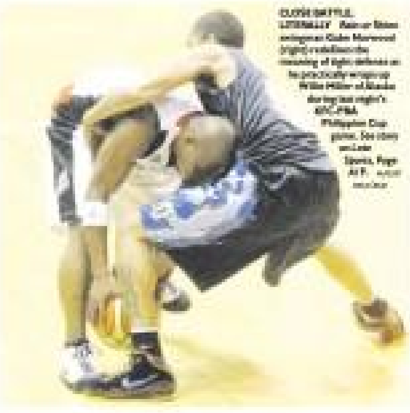
DRESDEN, GERMANY—FILIPINO GM Wesley [illegible] had only one thing in mind the moment he learned that Spain was next up for the Philippines in the 38th World Chess Olympiad here.

A crack at GM Alexei Shirov of Spain.

"It's a great chance for me to play a GM of his caliber here at the Olympiad," [illegible]

The Philippines and Spain are currently part of a logjam of countries with seven points each, only two points behind [illegible]

In the women's division, the Philippines hopes to do better in the second half of competition [illegible]



CLOSE BATTLE, LITERALLY Rain or Shine swingman Gabe Norwood (right) redefines the meaning of tight defense as he practically wraps up Willie Miller of Alaska during last night's KFC-PBA Philippine Cup game. See story on Late Sports, Page A27.

Nat'l athletes want old allowance back

By Jose Navarro

ALMOST A YEAR AFTER THE Philippine Sports Commission [illegible] their monthly stipend, national athletes want their old allowance scheme back.

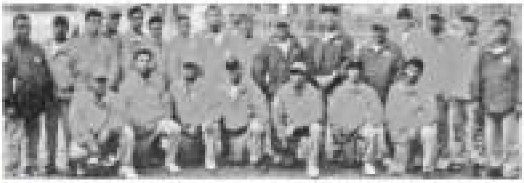
[illegible]

Harbour Centre tests Magnolia Pure Water



Orchard Founders lures 800

Chairman's Cup up in Sherwood



Carcel, Orduna capture kart titles



CARCEL





SPORTSWATCH

Pasig derby today

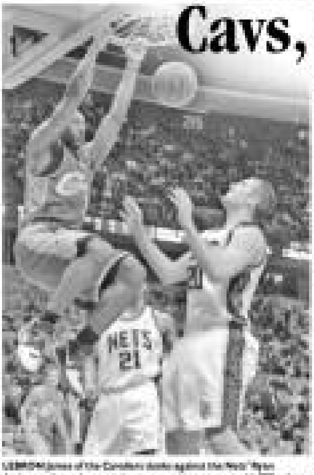
TRS races green flag

Davao, Makati Bakbakan sizzles

PLDT TENNIS

Cap's kid keeps Pinoy hopes alive

Cavs, Celtics clip foes



CA rules in favor of SBP, reverses RTC decision

Cruz eyes URCC surprise vs Belingon



Is there a copyright to the Philippine Sports Institute?

BABE EYE



Recah Trinidad







SPORTS

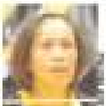
SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

UST, AdU stars lead stats race

By Cedelf P. Tupas

QUITE FITTINGLY, THE BEST scorer at the end of the elimination-round comes from the No. 1 team of the Shakey's V-League second conference.

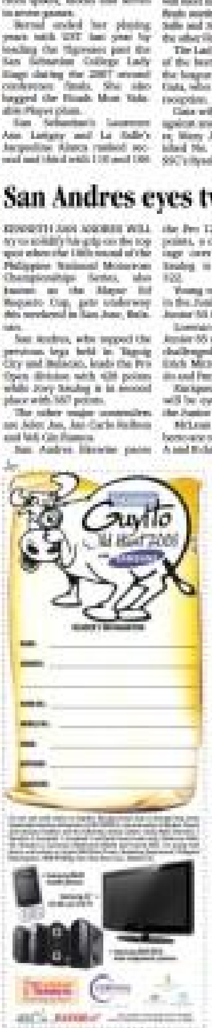
[illegible]



VENUS BERNAL

San Andres eyes twin wins

[illegible]



MCC tourney set Nov. 22

[illegible]

IN THIS ISSUE

■ Bacnotan buys into HK BPO animation company /B2
■ PAL losses hit $113.8M in 6 months /B6

BUSINESS

BSP keeps peso from hitting 50 to $1



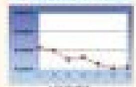
Gov't expects OFW inflows to support currency

SPORADIC CENTRAL BANK INTERVENTION YESTERDAY ALLOWED the peso to avoid slipping past the 50 mark against the dollar despite turbulent regional currency markets, currency traders said.

Economic growth seen slowing to 2.7% in 2009

Five Chinese firms eye mining projects in RP

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Stocks up 1.8%

Bacnotan buys into HK BPO animation company

[illegible]

BSP seen cutting policy rates

[illegible]

ATR KE cuts share price to draw investors

[illegible]

TVI Resources gets loan reprieve

[illegible]

Economic growth seen slowing . . .

[illegible]

Five Chinese firms eye mining projects in RP

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

Gov't gets ₱5.4B in dividends from state firms

Biggest contributor in 10 months was PPA with P1.18B

ROUNDUP

IPVG transfers BPO unit

Pancake House income up

Chinatrust loan portfolio up

Lower Q4 inflation seen

Team CGI declared champions at the Ronald McDonald House Charities' 3rd Annual Corporate Badminton Tournament

Team CGI bagged the championship trophy for a truly astounding game at the recent Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) 3rd Annual Corporate Charity Badminton Tournament held at the Yonex Philippines Badminton Club in Mandaluyong. The successful event helped raise PHP1.5 Million for RMHC's Bright Minds Read Program.

This yearly event allows RMHC to help raise funds for its Bright Minds Read (BMR) Program, a beginning reading program aimed to help public elementary school children nationwide. The program and its initiatives are supported by the Department of Education (DepEd) and endorsed by the congressional committee on Basic Education and Culture as a pilot program for adoption on legislative districts.

Masters Division		Elite Division	
Semi-Finalists:	Team CGI and Team QSR / KFK / Kay -Chem	Semi-Finalists:	Team McCormick and Team RCHC
Runner-up:	Team Powerade	Runner-up:	Team DDO
Masters Champions:	Team Technolux	Over-all Champions:	Team CGI Big Mac



The highly anticipated tournament was participated with a number of McDonald's business partners and affiliates, owner operators, and concerned friends and sponsors such as McDonald's Philippines, Coca-Cola Exports, Purefoods, General, San Miguel Corporation, The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippine Star, Eastern Telecoms, Havi Philippines, McCormick and Globe Telecom.

***





About RMHC

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) aims to create, find, and support programs that directly improve the health and well being of children by creating innovative, effective programs that address targeted needs, and by supporting these programs and other activities conducted by its local Chapters worldwide. The "Every Public School a Bright Minds Read (BMR) School is an initiative especially promoted in the Philippines in order to support the reading and English curriculum of local public schools in response to the global need for better education and English-speaking skills. Through RMHC's "Your change can change lives" campaign, anyone has the capacity to affect lives in the Filipino youth and effect change in the local education system. Simply visit your nearest McDonald's and donate your change in the canisters found beside the counters in order to help make every public school in our country a BMR school.



Business

PAL losses hit $113.8M in 6 months

Airline expenses outpace revenue

Mining firm spots copper, gold resources in Mindanao

In biotechnology, Agri official sees RP's salvation

LIFESTYLE



[illegible caption]

Doña Bea, her nightmare, and the organ in Bohol

Relishing retirement, the Zobel matriarch says she and her husband are in the 'best time of our lives'—but then she learned about the orchestra

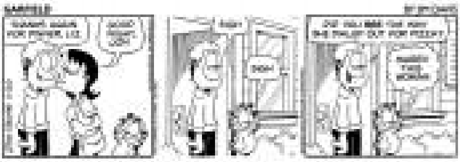
By Cheche V. Moral

IT'S FOR ART'S sake—and, evidently, for the love of her daughters—that the low-key Beatriz Zobel de Ayala agreed to a rare interview last Tuesday.

[illegible]

ComicRelief

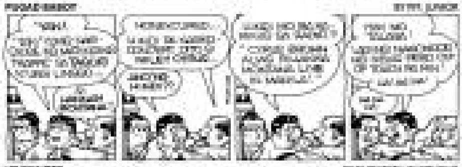
GARFIELD



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



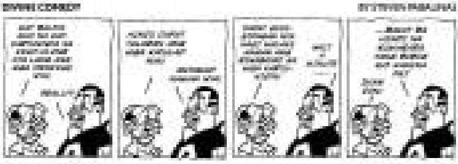
DICK TRACY



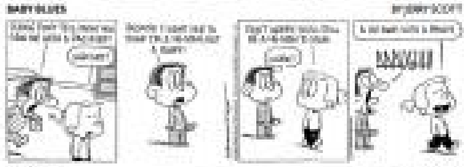


JAMES BOND





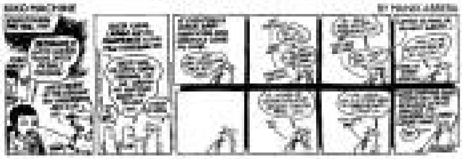
BABY BLUES

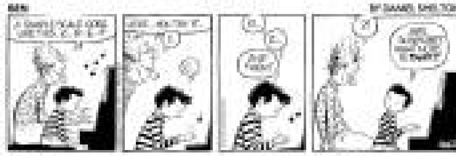




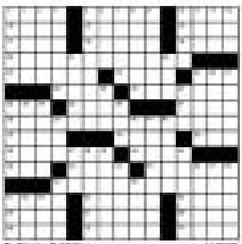
TULDOK

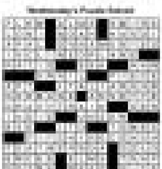






DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

			9		3			
	4	6			8	7	5	
	8						4	
1	3							9
5							8	1
	6						2	
	9	5	2			6	7	
			4		7			

Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Marvin Agustin's right on target

Actor-archery aficionado is on a winning streak as restaurateur. How does this driven man do it?





ACTOR-turned-entrepreneur Marvin Agustin



Certificate courses

Global menu

Salad-proud

Balance, precision

Culture tour of Macau

In almost all the places we went to, Filipinos were the top chefs

COUNTRY COOKING



Micky Fenix



Part 2

Salads

Palate break

Egg tart

Doña Bea, her nightmare, and the organ in Bohol



All-Spanish repertoire

Helping the PFO

Taking care of each other



LIFESTYLE Food

Sweet, hip gift ideas–
and the perfect pasta with flavors of the sea

KITCHEN RESCUE



Maggie Ayirrez

REQUESTS FOR GIFT SUGgestions come my way frequently at this time of the year. [illegible]

[illegible]

One-of-a-kind cakes

[illegible]

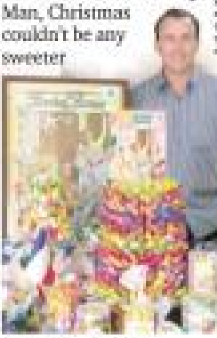
Comfort food

[illegible]



JAPANESE Mentaiko Spaghetti with Spicy Cod Roe

Thanks to French Candy Man, Christmas couldn't be any sweeter

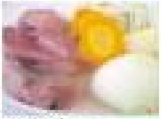


FRENCH Candy Man Wally Schiere

[illegible]



CUSTOMIZED Gingerbread houses



BOILED Ox Tongue

Newest barbecue party in town



Special dinner



NEW MENU ITEMS



TURKEY TREAT



JAPANESE PLACE REOPENS

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Lending A Helping Hand For Change

Warm applause, giving the thumbs-up, pats on the back, an exchange of high-fives, or even a casual handshake. These, to you, may be simple gestures, but they can mean a whole lot more to others. To them, these are acts that, in one way or another, change their lives for the better – a guiding principle that Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) goes by in the work it carries out for children in need.

Since its inception in [illegible], the charity arm of one of the world's most loved brands has spearheaded very notable programs such as **Bright Minds Read** and **Bahay Bulilit**.

Bright Minds Read



In partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd)-NCR, Bright Minds Read (BMR) aims to improve the reading and critical thinking skills of public school children in Grades 1 and 2. BMR kits – consisting of 32 storybooks, teachers' lesson plans, and students' worksheets – are distributed and used in NCR as well as 77 other major areas in the country including the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao.

Bright Facts About Bright Minds Read

The 2007-2008 Regional Achievement Test results [illegible] Grade 1 and 2 students from Region [illegible] garnered the highest points in Mean Performance Level (MPL) compared to students from Grades 3 to 6 who were not exposed to the BMR program.

Actual MPL Ratings: Grade 1 [illegible] • Grade 2 [illegible] • Grade 3 [illegible] • Grade 4 [illegible] • Grade 5 [illegible] • Grade 6 [illegible]

Bahay Bulilit

Bahay Bulilit, as the name implies, is a program undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The program's thrust is to build day-care centers in depressed areas and give pre-primary education to children under six years old. The participation of various entities is divided in such a way that the local government provides the land, the local community oversees the day-to-day operations, the DSWD supervises the educational component, and RMHC builds the center. Currently, a total of [illegible] Bahay Bulilit centers are spread among the cities of Makati, Mandaluyong, Quezon City, Manila, [illegible].



"The easiest way to help is by donating your spare change to RMHC canisters inside every McDonald's restaurant nationwide."

You Can Help



While these projects have seen a promising start, it is hoped that they will also see sustained existence through the participation of the general public. Channels like charity balls, golf tournaments, and ticket selling for the benefit of RMHC are held yearly and open to all.

You also help each time you purchase a McDonald's Happy Meal. Because 50 centavos for every Happy Meal sold automatically goes to RMHC.

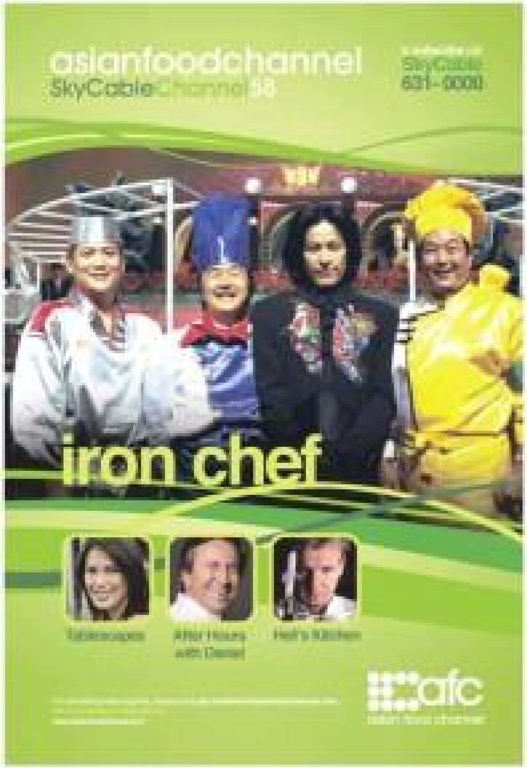
But perhaps the easiest way to help is by donating your spare change to RMHC canisters inside every McDonald's restaurant nationwide. This ensures the continuity of programs that bring about change in the lives of children and lift them to a better tomorrow.

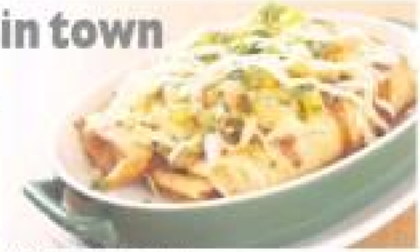
Because at RMHC, the belief is that, however small they may be, ***your change can change lives.***

For more information on RMHC, its projects, and how you can help, you may contact RMHC Executive Director [illegible], via e-mail: [illegible]



Newest barbecue party in town





TEXAS Smoke Bin's Crazy Chimichangas

DINING OUT

Christmas goodie treats



New branch

CHRISTMAS ROASTS





ENTERTAINMENT



Schedule's crazy, life's good

By Pocholo Concepcion

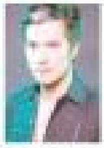
'Idol' favorite here for mall shows



Take Five

SCHEDULE'S B4

Diet crosses over

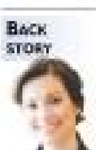


DIETHER OCAMPO

See B2

Staying home

Back Story



Lea Salonga

Sleep, food, Tears

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MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA
SEA MONSTER
DINOSAUR 3D

THE PODIUM
QUANTUM OF SOLACE
BURN AFTER READING
LATE SCREENINGS

CINEMA 1
QUANTUM OF SOLACE

ONE TRUE LOVE

RESERVED

LUZON

SOON TO OPEN

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

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MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 MONSTER SLAYER
4 SEX DRIVE
5 BURN AFTER READING
6 PASSENGERS
7 LALAMUNAN
8 indieSine: CONCERTO
9 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
10 WALANG KAWALA

ERMITA

1 BURN AFTER READING
2 SEX DRIVE
3 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
4 MONSTER SLAYER
5 ONE TRUE LOVE
6 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
7 PASSENGERS
8 LALAMUNAN
9 WALANG KAWALA

METRO EAST

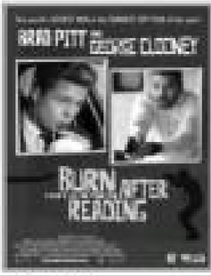
1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
4 SEX DRIVE
5 MONSTER SLAYER
6 BURN AFTER READING
7 PASSENGERS
8 THE WOMEN

NOVALICHES

1 ONE TRUE LOVE
2 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
3 THE WOMEN
4 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA

PIONEER

1 ONE TRUE LOVE
2 BURN AFTER READING
3 SEX DRIVE
4 MONSTER SLAYER



NOW SHOWING at ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

STA. ROSA

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 BURIED ALIVE
4 CITY of EMBER

LIPA

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 NIGHTS in RODANTHE
4 BURIED ALIVE

DASMARIÑAS

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 LIVING HELL
4 TROPIC THUNDER

IMUS

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
4 LIVING HELL

ANGELES

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 LIVING HELL
4 THE STRANGERS

STARMILLS

1 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
2 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
3 ONE TRUE LOVE
4 MY ONLY U
5 CITY of EMBER
6 THE WOMEN

BACOLOD

1 ONE TRUE LOVE
2 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
3 BURIED ALIVE
4 THE SISTERHOOD of the TRAVELLING PANTS 2
5 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
6 TROPIC THUNDER

ILOILO

1 ONE TRUE LOVE
2 JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLACE
3 BURIED ALIVE
4 EAGLE EYE
5 MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE to AFRICA
6 THE SISTERHOOD of the TRAVELLING PANTS 2



Diet...

CHEER FACTOR

Borat crashes 'Medium'







Schedule's...

From page E1

of songs. I wouldn't change a thing about the five years that I got to do that.

You were an early favorite in "Idol" and people were disappointed when you got eliminated. Did you feel the same way?

Yeah, absolutely. At that time I was really upset but then, the next day I did a lot of press interviews and it made me feel good to hear people say I'm gonna have a good career after this. And I've been so busy since.

What have you learned from the experience?

Music has to come from your heart. Every song that I chose on the show, whether or not Simon Cowell said it was good, meant something to me. I think if you do something in life just to impress people because it's what you want to do, most probably it won't turn out the way you want it. But if you do it from the heart, usually good things come out of it.



[illegible] on "American Idol": Johns (L) with (from R) Ryan Seacrest, Syesha Mercado and Carly Smithson. He was disappointed, he said, but recovered quickly.

What happens after your Manila shows?

I go back to the recording studio to finish my album by mid-December. I wrote a song for the holidays and hopefully it can be played in the Philippines. It's called [illegible]

Michael Johns performs tonight, 6:30 p.m. at Alabang Town Center and tomorrow, 7 p.m. at Greenbelt, Makati.

Staying home

From page E1

[illegible]

Rockers in French event



JOSE MARI CHAN performs in "One Voice, One Hope," tomorrow, 7 p.m. at the Mother Rosa Auditorium, Assumption College, San Lorenzo, Makati. [illegible]

French event at Bellini

Joey "Pepe" Smith and the Wally Gonzalez Band [illegible]

SHOW TIME

Comedy and magic show

[illegible]



GISELLE Sanchez

